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TUESDAY
DECEMBER 15, 1953

Delegation meeting this morning at nine o'clock.

The French newspapers are in an agitated state over the Secretary's press conference last night. Many of them have denounced it as a "brutal" intervention by a foreigner, and unbecoming in a diplomat, in French internal affairs. The reaction in the United States is on the other hand favorable. Also, quite a few French political figures think it is useful in having placed the facts regarding future American foreign policy squarely before the French public.

I had lunch with Jean Monnet, Monsieur Daum of the High Authority, and others from Luxembourg. They were preparing for a meeting this afternoon with Messrs. Humphrey, Stassen and Burgess to continue negotiations on a loan from the United States Government to the Coal and Steel Community. I had talked somewhat this morning about this to George Humphrey and Randy Burgess.

I went to the Palais de Chaillot, where Foster gave me the draft of a paper that might be used upon his return to Washington as a declaration by the President approving what Foster had said in Paris on EDC. Ben Moore and I worked it over a bit and I delivered it to him at the residence tonight where he was conversing with Monnet.

Later Monnet and Tomlinson came to the house and Jean told us of his talks on the loan. He then branched into what he had learned from individuals such as Reynaud, Pleven and Mollet about Foster's press conference. They all thought it had served a useful purpose.

Bill Elliot came to see us. He is still the British member of the Standing Group but will retire in the early spring. A very attractive fellow.

I did not go to the dinner which Monsieur Bidault gave tonight for the NATO Delegations since I had to stay up late and work over the draft prepared this

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afternoon of a possible note to be delivered later this month or in early January from the American Government to the French following up the French request at Bermuda for assurances by the United States Government on the continuance of the stationing of American troops on the Continent. If this is done it would afford an admirable opportunity to rehearse or to review the background of our European policy and what we have done to implement it. It would also point out that indecision by France concerning EDC has precipitated a situation which makes it impossible to deal effectively with the chief problem of Europe, namely whether Germany is to be oriented to the West or will be allowed to linger in limbo with the consequent dangers of an eventual attachment to the East. We wish to get this into the Secretary's hands before he leaves tomorrow night. At present it comprises some thirty pages, triple-spaced, of draft remarks which will have to be made concise in Washington after having been further edited by us tomorrow.

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